

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, which are responsive to the non-final Official Action mailed on June 21, 2005. In the Official Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 18-81. As described in the Summary of Interview above, Applicants have amended the independent claims to further define aspects of the invention disclosed in the specification. Upon entry of the present amendments, Claims 18-25 and 27-81 are pending in the present application. The independent claims are Claims 18, 31, 41, 48, 54, 66, 70, 73, 76, and 79. The Applicants respectfully offer the following remarks to traverse these pending rejections.

I. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner objected to Claims 19 and 26 as failing to set forth sufficient antecedent basis for certain elements. Applicants have amended Claim 19 and canceled Claim 26. Applicants submit that these amendments address the Examiner's objections.

II. The Amended Claims Are Not Obvious Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

As described above in the interview summary, Applicants and the Examiner agreed upon additional language to distinguish the independent claims over the prior art. Independent Claims 18, 31, 41, 48, 54, 66, 70, 73, 76, and 79 each recite displaying passenger-specific boarding information without receiving identification information from the passenger. In contrast, the system described in U.S. Patent No. 6,127,917 to Tuttle requires that the interrogator identify the transponder the passenger is wearing in a particular location before retrieving and displaying the passenger's departure information. (See 18:1-2; 18:17-19.) Similarly, the system described in the Air Transport World article by Perry Flint requires the gate agent to interact with the software in order to obtain flight and passenger information. Both of these references fail to teach the solution recited in the amended claims of the present application of triggering a display of passenger-specific boarding information in preparation for boarding without the passenger providing identification to the computer system.

III. Dependent Claim Rejections

If an independent claim is allowable, then the claims dependent thereon should also be allowable because they add limitations to the independent claim. *In re Fine*, 5 U.S.P.Q.2d 1596, 1599 (Fed. Cir. 1988). In view of the foregoing remarks with respect to independent Claims 18,


31, 41, 48, 54, 66, 70, 73, 76, and 79, the Applicants respectfully submit that each dependent claim is patentable over the combinations of the cited references. Thus, the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of dependent Claims 19-25, 27-30, 32-40, 42-47, 49-53, 55-65, 67-69, 71-72, 74-75, 77-78, and 80-81.

CONCLUSION

The foregoing is submitted as a full and complete response to the Official Action mailed on June 21, 2005. These amendments and remarks are submitted to overcome the rejections of Claims 18-25 and 27-81. The Applicants and the undersigned thank Examiner Ouellette for considering these amendments and remarks. The Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance.

An early notice of allowance is hereby courteously solicited. If any other issues remaining in this application may be resolved by a telephone conference, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (404) 572-3509.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert T. Neufeld", written in a cursive style.

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